

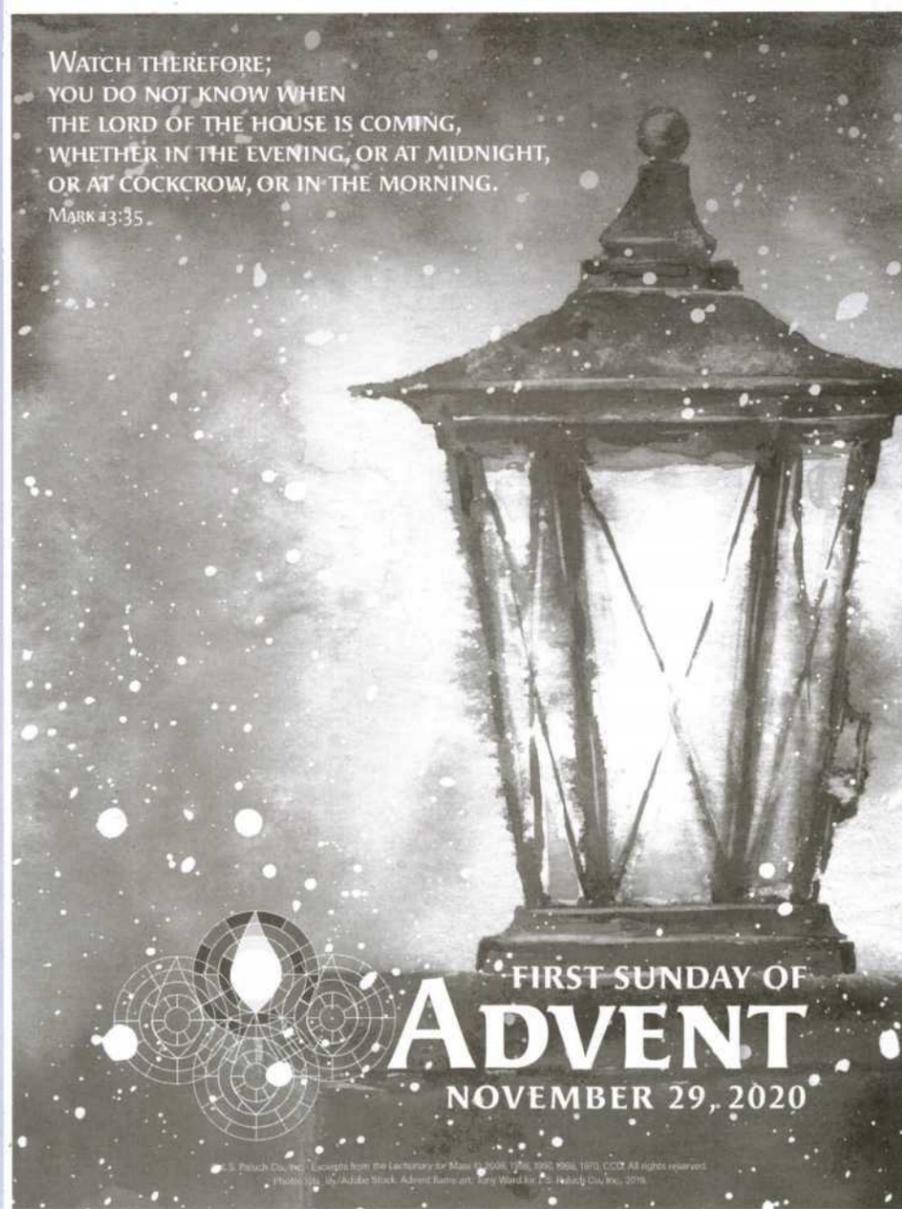
# St. John the Evangelist

**Father Satish B. Adhav** 2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501  
*Pastor*  
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 Website: [stjohngulfport.org](http://stjohngulfport.org)

Deacon David Allen  
*Pastoral Associate*  
 Linda Hebert  
*Lay Pastoral Associate*  
 Joshua Faul  
*Facilities Coordinator*  
 Elizabeth Martin  
*St. Vincent de Paul*  
 Scott Weis  
*Knights of Columbus*

## Worship Schedule

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:00 PM  
**Sunday Masses:**  
 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM  
**Spanish Mass:** 2:00 PM  
**Weekday Masses:**  
 Monday - Friday 7:00 AM  
**Weekday Adoration:**  
 Every Friday following Mass  
 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM  
**Holy Days:**  
 Vigil Mass: 6:00 PM  
 Holy Day: 7:00 AM and 12:00 PM  
**Confession:**  
 30 minutes before Vigil Mass  
 and anytime by request  
 all the other Masses  
**First Friday Adoration:**  
 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
 Mass, Exposition of the Blessed  
 Sacrament and Benediction  
**First Saturday Devotion:**  
 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM  
 Confession, Mass, Exposition  
 of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary,  
 Meditation and Benediction

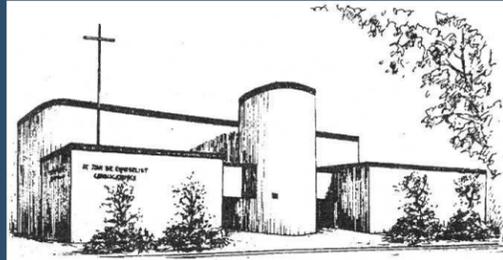


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## Welcome to St. John the Evangelist!

Whether you're just visiting for a brief time, looking for a new parish home, returning to the practice of your Catholic faith or interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we are happy you're here! To learn more about St. John, please visit [stjohngulfport.org](http://stjohngulfport.org).



If you are new to the parish, please go to our website and click on the "New Parishioner" tab.

## Upcoming Events

### New Time for the Vigil Mass

# 4:00 PM



Our Lady of Persecuted Christians Prayer Program will be sponsored by the Knights of Columbus at 7:00 PM on Monday, November 30, at the KC Hall.

**All are welcome!**

### **A Family of Faith**

Adult Catechetical Session

Wednesday / December 2 / 6:00 PM

Fatima Room



**First Friday / December 4**

**First Saturday / December 5**

Worship Schedule on the Front of the Bulletin  
At least *two* people for each hour of adoration  
Sign-up sheet is on the table in the back of the church nearest the Memorial Room.

*Please plan to spend time with Our Lord!*



### **FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Tuesday / December 8

Vigil Mass / 6:00 PM

Holy Day Masses

7:00 AM / 12:00 Noon



**Wednesday / December 9**

**6:00 PM**

**Fatima Room**

All 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are welcome.

### **ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

Monday / December 21

6:00 PM

### **CHRISTMAS**

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses

2:00 PM / 4:00 PM

6:00 PM (Celebrated by Fr. George Murphy)

Christmas Eve Midnight Mass - 11:45 PM

Christmas Day Mass - 9:00 AM



### **SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

Friday / January 1

Vigil Mass / 6:00 PM

Holy Day Masses

7:00 AM / 12:00 Noon

### ✠ Hear Us and Heal Us ✠

Your prayers are asked for the following individuals who are facing illness or other life challenges.

John Atwood	Alan Goad	Colette Marissa
Mary Ann Bishop	Dan Goad	Quigley
Andy Borgia	Onita Gross	Diane Riel
Brien Bowles	Jordan Hoang	Peggy Ryland
Dean Bowles	Werner Huber	Skip Ryland
Harriett Bowles	Kory Hudson	Joan Sample
Suzanne Bowles	Kent Killegrew	Peg Saxon
Garry Cooper	Suzanne King	Don Schiffrer
Beverly Crawford	Doug Kirk	Vicki Smith
Ed Croal	John Knight	Charlie Underwood
Ronnie Cuevas	Linda Langenbach	Erma Wilson
Mimi Davis	Betty Martin	
Carolyn Fayard	Rhonda Mires	Parishioners of
Marcia Flagg	Carolyn McClellan	St. John the
Regina Hanzalik	Helena Nichols	Evangelist
Fortenberry	Judy Northrup	
Julie Foster	Bernard Papania	
Angel Garcia	Colette Quigley	

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. Names will appear on the prayer list for six weeks, but are renewable.

### **MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	+Mary Alice Bailey +Charlie & Linda Kremmer
	<b>10:30 AM</b>	+Gary Dauro
	<b>5:00 PM</b>	+Luke, Leonard, Joe, Andrew & Alice Papania
<b>Monday:</b>	<b>7:00 AM</b>	+Gary Seymour Annette Seymour (Special Intention)
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>7:00 AM</b>	Mac Rouse (Special Intention)
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>7:00 AM</b>	+Mackie Fayard
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	+Parker Hewes
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>7:00 AM</b>	+Kaleel Salloum, Sr.

### **Prayer for Hurricane Season**

*O Heavenly Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear into praise of your goodness. Protect us from hurricanes and disasters of nature. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving others with God's own love and concern."

— Mother Teresa

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Please see our website for this week's FORMED offerings!

### **Last Week's Collections**

General Collection: \$3520

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: \$381

**Thank you for your generosity!**

### **Notice for Contributions**

During these difficult days, it's still important to support your parish. Our families are encouraged to maintain their church contributions by mail, by dropping it off at the Parish Office from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday – Friday; by utilizing automatic drafts (contact the Parish Office if you'd like to sign up); or by giving electronically at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohngulfport>.

**Your support is graciously appreciated!**

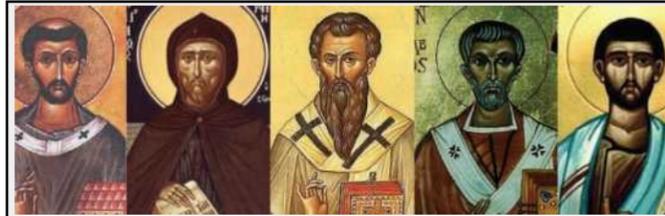
### **Did You Know?**

Over 50% of all adults neglect to make out a Last Will and Testament; and of those who have one, many do not keep it up to date. Think about getting your will made or having it reviewed – it provides a plan for distributing your hard-earned estate. And while you're at it, please consider helping St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church through a bequest. In addition, stocks and bonds, especially if appreciated in value over the years, can cost you or your heirs a lot of capital gains taxes, but they can also make substantial gifts to St. John. Please consider such a gift.

### A Reflection on Sunday's Readings

Mark's Gospel is the shortest and tersest of all four. The discourses of Jesus tend to be terser as well. Mark's portrayal of Jesus has none of the poetry of the Sermon on the Mount or the Sermon on the Plain as in Matthew or Luke, nor the extensive, reflective "I Am" discourses as in John. Mark's Jesus "cuts to the chase," we would say today. This is reflected quite well in today's passage. It is no accident that the dialogue of Jesus at this point in the Gospel according to Mark—the concluding words about the end of the world—immediately before his passion, is riddled with exclamation points and an overall sense of urgency. We would do well to re-tool our own way of living this Advent, for we live in a world urgently in need of hearing the message of Jesus proclaimed. It's time for us to "wake up!" and get out into the world to do it.

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### Theological Writings by the Church Fathers on the Holy Eucharist

"Also, in the priest Melchizedek, we see the Sacrament of the Sacrifice of the Lord prefigured, in accord with that to which the Divine Scriptures testify, where it says: 'And Melchizedek, the King of Salem, brought out bread and wine, for he was a priest of the Most High God; and he blessed Abraham' (Gen 14:18-19). That Melchizedek is in fact a type of Christ is declared in the psalms by the Holy Spirit, saying to the Son, as it were from the Father: 'Before the daystar I begot You. You are a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek' (Psalm 109[110]: 3-4). The order certainly is that which comes from his sacrifice and which comes down from it: because Melchizedek was a priest of the Most High God; because he offered bread; and because he blessed Abraham. And who is more a priest of the Most High God than our Lord Jesus Christ, who when He offered sacrifice to God the Father, offered the very same which Melchizedek had offered, namely bread and wine, which is, in fact, His Body and Blood!"

-St. Cyprian of Carthage (c. 155-250 A.D.)



We extend our sincere sympathy to Carl Gangemi and the family and friends of Steven Gangemi, who died last week.

Deepest condolences are also extended to Fred and Linda Langenbach on the death of their grandson, Kolbie Spence, and to all of his extended family and friends.

May Carl and Kolbie and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

### Prayer Candles



5-Day Prayer Candles are available for a \$5 donation and may be picked up in the Church Sacristy after Masses and in the Parish Office from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM throughout the work week.

**Red Candles for St. Joseph**  
**Blue Candles for the Blessed Mother**

### Adult Faith Formation



Credo sessions are open to all parishioners and are held on Thursdays at 6:00 PM in Presentation Hall.



### Attention Lectors!

The 2021 *Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers and Proclaimers of the Word* is now available and may be picked up in the Sacristy.



The Jesse Tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. Jesse was the father of King David, and the Jesse Tree gets its name from Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots."

We adorn a Jesse Tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophesies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse Tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.

Our Jesse Tree is located at the front of the church in between the statues of St. John the Evangelist and Jesus, the Good Shepherd; and our tree ornaments were made by the families who participate in *A Family of Faith*. Please stop by and look at the family tree of Jesus!



During Advent, the Advent wreath will be lit prior to Mass and we need families to light the wreath at the beginning of each Mass. A sign-up sheet can be found on the table nearest the Memorial Room in the back of the church.

### Happy birthday blessings are extended to:

Angelica Sanchez on Nov 30; Reneé Ward on Dec 1; Janet McDonald & Eddie Duran on Dec 4; and Betty Martin on Dec 5.

*May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!*

DIocese of Biloxi Office of Youth Ministry



**Friday, December 18, from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM**  
**on the grounds of St. Thomas in Long Beach.**

We'll have outdoor games, food, and social time for about an hour and then transition to praise and worship with adoration. Our Spirit movers will have some witness testimonies along with more engaging fun and formation throughout the night.

Due to COVID-19 please bring your own blankets, chairs, and masks. We'll be outside but be mindful of social distancing.



Thank you to everyone that donated nonperishable food items for Youth Ministry's Bountiful Bags for Thanksgiving Dinner service project. Your generous donations not only helped families with food for Thanksgiving, but for Christmas, as well, and the extras were donated to the St. Vincent de Paul food bank.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22  
**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24  
**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37  
**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27  
**Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31  
**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8  
**Sunday:** Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Monday:** St. Andrew, Apostle  
**Thursday:** St. Frances Xavier, Priest  
**Friday:** St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

## Blessing the Christmas Manger

St. Francis of Assisi introduced the custom of displaying the Christmas manger, also the Nativity scene or creche. If you have a Christmas manger in your home, you may wish to bless it. Some families set up the Nativity Scene on Christmas Eve. Others set it up earlier in Advent but do not put the infant Jesus in the manger until Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Gather the family around the Christmas manger and make the sign of the cross.

**Leader:** *Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

**All:** *Who made heaven and earth.*

**Reading** *Luke 2:1-7*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### Blessing Prayer

A parent leads, or the family prays in unison.

*God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.*

Source: *A Prayer Book for Catholic Families*

## Blessing the Christmas Tree

**Leader:** *Blessed be the name of the Lord.*

**All:** *Now and for ever.*

**Reading** *John 1:1-5*

In the beginning was the word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

### Blessing Prayer

A parent leads, or the family prays in unison.

*Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Source: *A Prayer Book for Catholic Families*